

House Republican Press Release

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Googins Speaks Out on Local Ethics Reform Bill



Glastonbury legislator says towns should regulate themselves

HARTFORD - State **Representative Sonny Googins** (R-Glastonbury) testified before the Government Administration and Elections Committee on Friday, January 28th, to speak out on certain aspects of ethical reforms measures currently before that committee. Among the provisions of one reform bill, Senate Bill 62, AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT ETHICS CODES, are requirements that the State impose an establishment of an ethics commission and code, replete with minimum standards and procedures.

Representative Googins noted that the bill exempts towns that have already implemented ethics codes, and would therefore fail to achieve any uniformity among town codes. She cited Glastonbury as an example.

“My town, Glastonbury, has such a code and commission in place after a yearlong process that included substantial citizen input,” said Representative Googins. “I am happy to say that ethical violations in Glastonbury are extremely rare. It is my belief that towns should create their own code and commission to their standards and state government should not intrude on that.

“As federal government should intrude less on states’ prerogatives, so too should we have faith in our towns to regulate their code of ethics, and not preempt that right,” Googins added.